

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said means for reading reads the information on said recording medium at a speed of N-times as high as a normal speed.
3. (currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~16~~, wherein said control means controls the write of the information read from said recording medium while it controls reproduction of the information written in said storage means at any time.
4. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:
storage means for storing information read from a recording medium on which the information is written in a prescribed number of groups;
means for reading the information on said recording medium; and
control means for controlling the write in said storage means of at least a prescribed time or quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups,

wherein the information in said storage means is read at a speed which is higher than or equal to a speed at which the information is reproduced,

wherein said control means controls the write of the information read from said recording medium while it controls reproduction of the information written in said storage means at any time, and

wherein said control means causes a prescribed time or quantity of information written in said storage means to be held therein and the other information written in said storage means to be held therein and the other information to be discarded after reproduction.

5. (Currently amended) A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said control means correlatively manages said prescribed time or quantity of information written in said storage means and the recording medium in which it has been written.

6. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:
storage means for storing information read from a recording medium on which the information is written in a prescribed number of groups;
means for reading the information on said recording medium; and
control means for controlling the write in said storage means of at least a prescribed time or quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups,
wherein the information in said storage means is read at a speed which is higher than or equal to a speed at which the information is reproduced,

wherein said control means correlatively manages said prescribed time or quantity of information written in said storage means and the recording medium in which it has been written;

and further comprising:

means for detecting identification information for identifying said recording medium, wherein where said prescribed time or quantity of information contained in the recording medium identified by said identifying means has been already written in said storage means, said control means inhibits storage of the information into said storage means.

7. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, further comprising:

a holding member for holding a plurality of recording media, wherein
said control means causes said storage means to store said prescribed time or quantity of information relative to all said recording media held in said holding member.

8. (Previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein after said control means causes said storage means to store said prescribed time or quantity of information relative to all said recording media held in said holding member, it continues reproduction using the information remaining in said storage means.

9. (Previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein after said control means causes said storage means to store said prescribed time or quantity of information relative to all said recording media held in said holding member, it continues reproduction using the information recording in said recording media.

10. (currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said recording means is a compact disk and said storage means is a hard disk drive.

11. (currently amended) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said control means cross-fades each of said groups with a subsequent group, such that information is continuously reproduced.

12. (currently amended) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said control means controls the write in said storage means of at least the prescribed time of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups.

13. (currently amended) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim ~~14~~, wherein said control means controls the write in said storage means of at least the prescribed quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups.

14. (currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:

a memory that stores information read from a recording medium on which the
information is written in a prescribed number of groups;

a data retrieval circuit that reads the information on said recording medium; and

a control circuit that controls the write in said memory of at least a prescribed time or
quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups,

wherein the information in said memory is read to a buffer memory at a speed which is
higher than or equal to a speed at which the information in said buffer memory is reproduced,

wherein said control circuit controls the write of the information read from said recording
medium while it controls reproduction of the information written in said memory at any time,

wherein said control circuit causes a prescribed time or quantity of information written in
said memory to be held therein and the other information written in said memory to be held
therein and the other information to be discarded after reproduction.

15. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14,
wherein said data retrieval circuit reads the information on said recording medium at a speed of
N-times as high as a normal speed.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit correlatively manages said prescribed time or quantity of information written in said memory and the recording medium in which it has been written.

19. (currently amended) ~~A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 18,~~
A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:

a memory that stores information read from a recording medium on which the information is written in a prescribed number of groups;

a data retrieval circuit that reads the information on said recording medium; and

a control circuit that controls the write in said memory of at least a prescribed time or quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups,

wherein the information in said memory is read to a buffer memory at a speed which is higher than or equal to a speed at which the information in said buffer memory is reproduced,

wherein said control circuit correlatively manages said prescribed time or quantity of information written in said memory and the recording medium in which it has been written,

wherein the control circuit detects identification information for identifying said recording medium, wherein where said prescribed time or quantity of information contained in the recording medium identified by said control circuit has been already written in said memory, said control circuit inhibits storage of the information into said memory.

20. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14,
further comprising:

a media holder that holds a plurality of recording media, wherein
said control circuit causes said memory to store said prescribed time or quantity of
information relative to all said recording media held in said media holder.

21. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 20,
wherein after said control circuit causes said memory to store said prescribed time or quantity of
information relative to all said recording media held in said media holder, it continues
reproduction using the information remaining in said memory.

22. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 20,
wherein after said control circuit causes said memory to store said prescribed time or quantity of
information relative to all said recording media held in said media holder, it continues
reproduction using the information recording in said recording media.

23. (previously presented) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14,
wherein said recording medium is a compact disk and said memory is a hard disk drive.

24. (previously presented) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit cross-fades each of said groups with a subsequent group, such that information is continuously reproduced.

25. (previously presented) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit controls the write in said memory of at least the prescribed time of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups.

26. (previously presented) The recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit controls the write in said memory of at least the prescribed quantity of information corresponding to a beginning address of each of said groups.